

CLAIMS:

1. An optical disk recording apparatus,  
comprising:

recording means for recording at least image  
data on an optical disk medium; and

thumbnail generating means for generating,  
for each partial recording section of image data to be  
recorded on said optical disk medium, thumbnail data of  
a particular image associated with the partial  
recording section, the thumbnail data being recorded on  
said optical disk medium by said recording means,  
wherein:

when a particular operation is conducted, the  
particular image is read for each of the partial  
recording sections;

said thumbnail generating means generates  
thumbnail data for the particular image read for said  
each partial recording section;

said recording means recording the thumbnail  
data of a plurality of images in the form of a string  
of data.

2. An optical disk recording apparatus according  
to claim 1, wherein:

said optical disk medium is of a write-once  
type; and

when an operation for write processing  
termination is conducted as the particular operation,  
the string of thumbnail data is recorded.

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3. An optical disk recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said optical disk medium is of a write-once type; and

each time an operation for REC processing is conducted as the particular operation, thumbnail data is generated for the particular operation and is separately kept as a string of thumbnail data; and

when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, the string of thumbnail data is recorded.

4. An optical disk recording apparatus capable of recording data on a plurality of types of optical disk media; comprising:

recording means for recording at least image data on an optical disk medium;

thumbnail generating means for generating, for each partial recording section of image data to be recorded on said optical disk medium, thumbnail data of a particular image associated with the partial recording section, the thumbnail data being recorded on said optical disk medium by said recording means; and

means for determining a type of said optical disk medium and for changing the processing to generate and to record thumbnail data in association with the recording of the image.

5. An optical disk recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

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said optical disk medium is of a write-once type; and

when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, the string of thumbnail data is recorded.

6. An optical disk recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

said optical disk medium is of a write-once type; and

each time an operation for REC processing is conducted as the particular operation, thumbnail data is generated for the particular operation and is separately kept as a string of thumbnail data; and

when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, the string of thumbnail data is recorded.

7. An optical disk recording method, comprising the steps of:

recording at least image data on an optical disk medium;

generating, for each partial recording section of the image data, thumbnail data of a particular image associated with the partial recording section and recording the thumbnail data;

reading, when a particular operation is conducted, the particular image for each of the partial recording sections;

generating thumbnail data for the particular

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image read; and

recording the thumbnail data of a plurality of images in the form of a string of data.

8. An optical disk recording method according to claim 7, wherein said optical disk medium is of a write-once type, said method further comprising the steps of:

generating, when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, thumbnail data for each of the string of partial recording sections; and

recording the thumbnail data generated by the generating step after the string of partial recording sections.

9. An optical disk recording method according to claim 7, wherein said optical disk medium is of a write-once type; said method further comprising the steps of:

generating, each time an operation for REC processing is conducted as the particular operation, thumbnail data is generated for the particular operation and separately keeping the thumbnail data as a string of thumbnail data; and

recording, when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, the string of thumbnail data after the partial recording sections.

10. An optical disk recording method, comprising

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the steps of:

recording at least image data on an optical disk medium;

generating, for each partial recording section of the image data, thumbnail data of a particular image associated with the partial recording section and recording the thumbnail data;

recording data on a plurality of types of optical disk media;

determining a type of said optical disk medium; and

changing the processing to generate and to record thumbnail data in association with the recording of the image.

11. An optical disk recording method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

generating, when it is determined that said optical disk medium is of a write-once type and when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, thumbnail data for the partial recording section; and

recording the thumbnail data generated by the generating step.

12. An optical disk recording method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

generating, when it is determined that said optical disk medium is of a write-once type and an operation for REC processing is conducted as the

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particular operation, thumbnail data for the particular operation and separately keeping the thumbnail data as a string of thumbnail data; and

recording, when an operation for write processing termination is conducted as the particular operation, the string of thumbnail data after the partial recording sections, the recording being conducted as an update operation.

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